

Dear Members of the  
FCC:

I have worked in  
television for over  
twenty years --  
twelve years as a  
producer and writer  
and another dozen as  
a college professor  
teaching  
broadcasting -- and  
I am outraged by the  
behavior of Sinclair  
Broadcasting.

The airwaves are and  
should be owned by  
the public and  
should not be used  
solely for personal  
or corporate gain.  
Sinclair  
Broadcasting's  
decision to force  
their stations to  
air an anti-Kerry  
documentary days  
before the election  
is a clear example  
of the dangers of  
media consolidation  
and relaxation of  
regulations.

Sinclair uses the  
public airwaves free  
of charge, and is  
obligated by law to  
serve the public  
interest. But when  
large companies  
control the  
airwaves, we get  
more of what's good  
for the bottom line  
and less of what we  
need for our  
democracy. Instead  
of something  
produced at "News  
Central" far away,  
it's more important  
that we see real  
people from our own  
communities and more  
substantive news

about issues that  
matter.

Sinclair's actions  
show why we need to  
strengthen media  
ownership rules, not  
weaken them. They  
show why the license  
renewal process  
needs to involve  
more than a returned  
postcard. Thank you.

-- April Orcutt  
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